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CLASSIFICATION SECRET

COUNTRY East Germany REPORT

TOPIC Military Activities in Weissenfels and Gera

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 15 June 1955

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REFERENCES PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED
Information

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1. Between 14 and 21 May 1955, the Infanterie Kaserne north of Selauerstrasse (8521) in Weissenfels was occupied by only a rear detail. ¹

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2. Between 14 and 19 May, the Pionier Kaserne south of Selauerstrasse (8522) in Weissenfels was occupied as previously by a unit of approximately 1,000 soldiers. On 14 May, 5 trucks left the installation toward Selau. At 1730 on 17 May, 6 officers and 130 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets entered the installation in the direction of the firing range. On 19 May, motor vehicles were seen in the installation and in the town. ²

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3. Between 16 and 22 May, the Reuss Kaserne (8141) in Gera was occupied to capacity by a unit of 1,600 to 1,800 soldiers which had already previously been observed there. Intensive activities were observed. On 16 and 18 May, numerous guns including 12 x 100-mm AT guns, 8 x 152-mm gun howitzers and 6 x 122-mm field howitzers were seen in the barracks yard. Soldiers observed engaged in cleaning of the guns and aiming practice. Small details of soldiers with 2 to 4 guns almost daily left for the vicinity of Gera and returned in the evening. Firing with rifles and submachine guns was practiced in Milbitz training area. ³

4. Between 16 and 22 May, the Panzer Kaserne (8142) in Tinz near Gera was occupied as previously. Up to 4 T-34/85 tanks were repeatedly seen at aiming and driving practice. ⁴

1. Comment. The transfer to Kindel of the 174th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt of the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div carried in this installation was confirmed by other sources.

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2. Comment. According to previous information, the 17th Gds Tank SP Regt of the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div, which is believed to be stationed in this installation, left during the night of 3/4 May.

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3. Comment. The bulk of the 308th Arty Brig believed to be stationed in the Reuss Kaserne was apparently still at the post. Eight 100-mm AT guns, which presumably belong to this brigade, were observed in the Zeitz Forest on 15 May.
4. Comment. The Panzer Kaserne Kaserne in Tinz is believed to be occupied by an U/I Tank Tng Bn of the army.

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